

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA PRIORITY

CINCLANT NORVA PRIORITY

INFO COMUSFORAZ

CNO

CSAF WASHDC

UNCLAS STATE 071837

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP, PO, (DIGGS, CHARLES C. JR.)

SUBJECT: CODEL - CHARLES C. DIGGS, JR.

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

1. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, CHAIRMAN OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, WILL CONDUCT A SPECIAL STUDY MISSION TO THE AZORES FOR THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, APRIL 11-13. REPRESENTATIVE DIGGS WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MRS. LESLIE YATES, CONSULTANT TO THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA, MAJOR JAMES T. AUSTIN, USAF/LL AND POSSIBLY AN INTERPRETER FROM CONGRESSMAN DIGGS' STAFF. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS, FISCAL DATA, ETA UNCLASSIFIED

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AND CODEL ITINERARY WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL.

2. PURPOSE OF CODEL VISIT "IS TO INSPECT U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES IN THE AZORES AND TO DISCUSS WITH U.S. MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND WITH U.S. AND PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS THE JUSTIFICATION FOR RENEWAL OF THE U.S. PORTUGAL AGREEMENT REGARDING USE OF THE AZORES." WE UNDERSTAND FROM COMMITTEE STAFF THAT CODEL ALSO PLANS VISIT ISLAND OF SAO MIGUEL TO MEET WITH AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA AND PRESUMABLY WITH PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS THERE. COMMITTEE STAFF ALSO INFORMS US THAT CODEL WISHES TO BE BRIEFED BY COMUSFORAZ ON STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE OF LAJES TO USAF AND USN AND HOW THIS IMPORTANCE WILL AFFECT THE FORM OF THE QUID PRO QUO FOR USE OF THE BASE AND U.S. POLICY VIS A VIS PORTUGUESE

AFRICA. CODEL ALSO WISHES DISCUSS GOP RACIAL POLICIES IN PORTUGUESE AFRICA, TREATMENT OF U.S. BLACK SERVICE-MEN AT LAJES, AND TREATMENT OF MINORITY (PRESUMABLY NON-AMERICAN) GROUPS LIVING IN AZORES. CODEL WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH MICHIGAN CONSTITUENTS AND WITH BLACK SERVICEMEN.

3. COMUSFORAZ AND AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA SHOULD ADHERE STRICTLY TO THE FOLLOWING GUIDELINES FOR CODEL'S VISIT:

(A) WITH LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY SECURITY CLEARANCES (DIGGS AND MAJOR AUSTIN HAVE TOP SECRET CLEARANCE; MRS. YATES HAS SECRET CLEARANCE. OTHER STAFF MEMBER IS NOT CLEARED FOR CLASSIFIED MATERIAL.) COMUSFORAZ SHOULD PROVIDE CODEL WITH THOROUGH BRIEFING ON BASE OPERATIONS AND STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF LAJES TO NATO AND ATLANTIC SECURITY AS WELL AS FOR NON-NATO RELATED MISSIONS (E.G. TO MIDDLE EAST).

(B) COMUSFORAZ AND PONTA DELGADA SHOULD COOPERATE WITH CODEL IN ATTEMPTING ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS REQUESTED BY CONGRESSMAN DIGGS. SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR APPOINTMENTS WILL BE COVERED IN SEPARATE MESSAGE. CODEL HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT APPOINTMENTS WITH PORTUGUESE CITIZENS MAY BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE SINCE ALL THREE DATES OF VISIT ARE DAYS OF RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE AND APRIL 12
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AND 13 ARE ALSO PORTUGUESE NATIONAL HOLIDAYS.

(C) FOR GUIDANCE OF ADDRESSEES THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF BASE NEGOTIATIONS WITH PORTUGAL. STATE HAS ALREADY EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO BRIEF APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF THE CONGRESS ON THE NEGOTIATIONS WHEN THE STATUS OF THOSE TALKS PERMITS. IN TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON AFRICA AND IN

WRITTEN REPLIES TO REQUESTS FOR BRIEFINGS, STATE DEPARTMENT HAS INFORMED CONGRESSMAN DIGGS THAT IT IS NOT PREPARED DISCUSS AZORES NEGOTIATIONS AT THIS TIME.

(D) WITHIN SECURITY LIMITATIONS, ALL ASPECTS OF BASE AND CONSULATE OPERATIONS CAN AND SHOULD BE DISCUSSED FULLY WITH CODEL.

(E) COMUSFORAZ SHOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR MEETING WITH CODEL TO ALL INTERESTED BLACK PERSONNEL AND TO ANY INTERESTED CONSTITUENTS FROM MICHIGAN. ADDITIONALLY COMUSFORAZ SHOULD ASSIST CODEL IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT TREATMENT OF U.S. MINORITY PERSONNEL BY RESIDENTS OF TERCEIRA.

4. PORTUGUESE AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON INFORMED APRIL 5 OF INTENDED VISIT CODEL DIGGS AND OF CODEL'S INTEREST MEET WITH PORTUGUESE OFFICIALS IN THE AZORES.

5. FOR LISBON: PLEASE INFORM APPROPRIATE LEVEL MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF CODEL'S PLANS. CODEL DOES NOT PLAN VISIT LISBON. RUSH

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